

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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| COUNTRY | China | REPORT NO. | [REDACTED] |
| SUBJECT | 1. Southward Military Train Movement, Wuhan Area 2. Transfer of Supply and Service Command, Central and South China Military Area | DATE DISTR. | 21 July 1953 |
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| PLACE ACQUIRED | [REDACTED] | REQUIREMENT NO. | RD |
| | | REFERENCES | |

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1. During March 1953 about 30,000 Chinese Communist troops passed through the Wuhan railway station enroute from Northeast China to Central and South China.¹ During March large quantities of military supplies and arms were moved from Hankow by rail to the Northeast.
2. On 5 March the Army Service Department and the Ordnance Department of the Supply and Service Command, Central and South China Military Area, began to transfer their offices and personnel from Hankow to Canton.² This transfer was the first phase in the relocation of the entire command to Canton. The transfer for all units was to be completed before 31 March 1953. An office was to be established in the Hankow area to handle any unfinished matters after the transfer.

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED]

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The return of a veteran army of the 4 Field Army from Korea to South China would not be an unexpected development. However, available information fails to indicate that any 4 Field Army units have withdrawn from Korea since the return of the 42 Army in late 1952 or early 1953. The possibility remains that the troops reported here either were not 4 Field Army units (an unlikely assumption) or that they were moving from Northeast China without ever having been committed in Korea. Until recently, available information tentatively listed the 55, 56, and 57 Armies in Northeast China. [REDACTED] however, as a result

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of a reassessment, these armies were dropped from Chinese Communist order of battle assessments. Finally, [REDACTED] reported the recruitment of militia troops into field force units in Northeast China in early 1953; the possibility exists therefore that some new or reconstituted unit was thus formed in Manchuria.

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2. [REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED] when the Command Center of the Central and South China Military Area and of the 4 Field Army was moved from Hankow to Canton in the summer of 1952, some parts of the Supply and Service command remained at Hankow. [REDACTED] Comment. The transfer of Central and South China Military Area Headquarters units to Canton is apparently proceeding gradually. [REDACTED], listed those Central and South China Military Area schools scheduled to remain in the Wuhan area.

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